

SP

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/824,995

Examiner

Jimmy T Nguyen

Applicant(s)

DIONNE, HUGUES

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/31/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 14 April 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/758,380.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


DERRIS H. BANKS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The art of record, considered alone or in combination, neither anticipates nor renders obvious *a horizontal screw press comprising: a meshed-surface tubular body having a material inlet provided near a proximate end thereof; a conical endless screw shaft mounted in the tubular body; a rear excess fluid outlet having a toroidal screen provided in the proximate end of the tubular body; and a proximate end of the endless screw including a blade assembly mounted thereto as to be in near-contact with the screen,* in combination with the rest of the claimed limitations.

US Patent number 3,688,687 to Craig et al. discloses *a vertical inclined screw press* comprises a tubular body having a material inlet provided near a proximate end thereof (fig. 3); a screw shaft mounted in the tubular body; a rear excess fluid outlet (42) provided in the proximate end of the tubular body; and a proximate end of the endless screw including a plate (41) mounted thereto as to be in near-contact with the outlet (fig. 3). But Craig fails to disclose a horizontal screw press which is required a conical screw shaft to transport material from an inlet end of the tubular body to a discharge end.

US Patent number 5,476,550 to Walker discloses *a screw press* comprises a tubular body having a material inlet provided near a proximate end thereof; a screw shaft mounted in the tubular body; a rear excess fluid outlet provided in the proximate end of the tubular body (fig. 1). Walker fails to disclose a blade assembly mounted to the screw at the proximate end to induce cleaning action against a screen in the rear excess fluid outlet.

EP 43543 discloses *a screw press* comprises a tubular body having a material inlet provided near a proximate end thereof; a screw shaft mounted in the tubular body; a rear excess

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fluid outlet provided in the proximate end of the tubular body (fig. 1). EP 43543 fails to disclose a blade assembly mounted to the screw at the proximate end to induce cleaning action against a screen in the rear excess fluid outlet.

EP 412694 discloses a screw press comprises a tubular body having a material inlet provided near a proximate end thereof; a screw shaft mounted in the tubular body; a rear outlet provided in the proximate end of the tubular body (fig. 1). EP 412694 fails to disclose the tubular body having a meshed surface.

None of these references by themselves or in combination with the other prior art cited teach the claimed invention set forth in claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jimmy T Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-4520. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur 8:00am - 6:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached on (571) 272- 4419. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JTNguyen
March 01, 2005



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